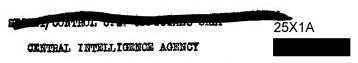
| TELLIFIE W   | Approved For Release 2001/03/06 : CIA-RDP82-004  CLASSIFICATION STATEMENT TO A ST | 57R007900610012-9  |
|--|--|--|
|  | CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  | REPORT NO.   |
|  | INFORMATION REPORT   | CD NO.   |
| COUNTRY  | Syria/USSR   | DATE DISTR. 13 June 1951   |
| SUBJECT  | Proposals for Syrian Rapprochement with Soviet Union   | NO. OF PAGES 2   |
| PLACE<br>ACQUIRED  | 25X1A  | NO. OF ENCLS.  |
| DATE OF INFO.  |  | SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO. 25X1X   |
|  |  |  |
| 1. At a reception for the press given by the Syrian Army at Quaytra, Syria, during the week of 14 May 1951, Abd-al-Latif Yunis, Syrian Deputy from Safita, was asked if his recent statements advocating a pact between Syria and the Soviet Union were prompted by his contacts with the Soviet Legation in Damascus. 1 Yunis replied that he had acted with the knowledge and approval of Khalid al-Azm, Syrian Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs, and Lt. Col. Adib Shishakli, Chief of Staff of the Syrian Army, in making his public declarations.   |  |  |
| 25X1X <b>2</b> 。   | according to a Syrian deputy, the Syrian Consul General in New York, Rafig Asha, had arrived in Damascus prior to Yunis' statements with a confidential letter from the Syrian delegate to the United Nations, Faris al-Khuri, in which al-Khuri recommended that the Syrian Ministry of Foreign Affairs undertake some "political blackmail" in the form of a proposal for a pact with the Soviet Union before the meeting of the United Nations Security Council to examine the Syro-Israeli dispute. Asha, Tunis, and Shishakli subsequently met at the Foreign Ministry to discuss the letter, and Tunis undertook to carry out al-Khuri's suggestion.   |  |
| 25X1X 3.  **Take told friends in Damascus that the pro-Russian statements of Ma'ruf Bawalibi in Cairo in March 1950 had resulted in a more cordial attitude toward Syrian representatives in Washington on the part of the United States Department of State and he hoped that similar statements by Yunis would cause the Americans to take a more sympathetic attitude toward Syrian interests, in order to prevent a Syrian alignment with the Soviet Union.  **Aska stated that "with the Americans you have to act this way."   |  |  |
| This document is hereby regraded to CONFIDENTIAL in accordance with the letter of 16 October 1973 from the letter of 17 O | Comment. The Damascus press of 11 Ms report of Tunis' statement in the Syrian Parlis with the Soviet Union. On 16 May the Damascus of the body of a memorandum submitted by Tunis to recommending a general arab rapprochement with liable Damascus source reported that Tunis had Communists including Nasuh al-Ja'fari on 12 May CLASSIFICATION  | ment advocating an alliance<br>newspaper <u>Baraia</u> reported<br>members of the Arab League,<br>the Soviets. A fairly re-<br>met with prominent Syrian |

Next CLASSIFICATION S DISTRIBUTION TP 0 08 No Change in Class. Declassified Class. Changed Ciass. Changed for 48 s C 2001/03/06: CIA-RDP82-00457R007900610012-9

Auth.: Approved For Release 2001/03/06: CIA-RDP82-00457R007900610012-9

Date: 21 JUL 1978 By: 015



-2-

arrangements were being made for Tunis to meet Khalid Bakdash. The same source also reported that Tunis had visited the Soviet Legation in Damascus on four occasions during the week of 7 May.

Control of the Contro